

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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NSCE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 PA-01
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INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
AMCONSUL ADANA
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
AMCONSUL IZMIR
USMISSION USNATO
USODOCSOUTH NAPLES
USNMR SHAPE
USCINCEUR VAHINGEN GE
CINCUSAFE RAMSTEIN GE

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USICA FOR VOA/PN, PGM/RC, PGM/PPE, EU

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: PEPR, MASS, TU, US
SUBJ: TURKISH PRESS ON BASES AND EMBARGO

1. TURKISH PRESS AUGUST 11 CONTINUED TO REPORT ON ELEKDAG VISIT TO WASHINGTON AND SPECULATE ON THE REOPENING OF US INSTALLATIONS IN TURKEY, BUT AS INSIDE NEWS ITEMS AND NOT AS FRONT PAGE HEADLINES. LIBERAL RPP-ORIENTED "MILLIYET" REPEATED ALMOST VERBATIM SECTION ON US INSTALLATIONS IN TURKEY FROM 16 MONTHS OLD HIRC COMMITTEE PRINT ENTITLED "US MILITARY INSTALLATIONS AND OBJECTIVES IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE MEDITERRANEAN." ARTICLE FEATURED MAP SHOWING MAJOR US INSTALLATIONS IN TURKEY AND HEADLINES THAT "ACCORDING TO CONGRESSIONAL RESEARCH SERVICE REPORT, US BASES NEAR MEDITERRANEAN AND BLACK SEA MUST OPERATE AS BEFORE." SAME MATERIAL ALSO APPEARED IN ENGLISH-LANGUAGE WEEKLY "BRIEFING." "BRIEFING" ALSO QUOTED TURKISH DIPLOMATIC SOURCE TO EFFECT THAT UNTIL NEW AGREEMENT COMPLETED GOT WILL UNILATERALLY ESTABLISH PRINCIPLES OF AN INTERIM

STATUS TO REGULATE AMERICAN PRESENCE IN TURKEY, AND THAT ALTHOUGH SUCH STATUS EXISTS NOW, IT WILL BE REPLACED WITH ONE DESIGNED TO MAKE LIFE EASIER FOR US FORCES, INCLUDING REOPENING OF NORMAL APO AND BX FACILITIES.

2. LEFTIST "CUMHURIYET" NOTED THAT WASHINGTON DISCUSSIONS OF MFA SEC-GEN ELEKDAG HAVE FOCUSSED ON BASE ISSUE AND THAT US IS SEEKING TO REOPEN INTELLIGENCE INSTALLATIONS ON BASIS OF A "TEMPORARY STATUS."

3. "HURRIYET" COLUMNIST CUNEYD ARCA YUREK COMMENTED THAT TURKEY APPEARS WILLING AS "GOODWILL" GESTURE TO OPEN FOUR US INSTALLATIONS. HE RECALLED, HOWEVER, THAT FORMER DEFENSE AGREEMENT CONTAINED PROVISION FOR \$300 MILLION IN GRANT AID APPARENTLY ABSENT FROM PRESENT ARRANGEMENTS WHICH OFFER ONLY \$175 MILLION IN CREDITS. ARCA YUREK ASKED WHY GOT SHOULD ACCEPT CREDIT WHICH WOULD ONLY PUSH GOT FURTHER INTO DEBT AND STATED THAT IF BASES REOPENED UNDER SUCH CIRCUMSTANCES IT WOULD HAVE BEEN BETTER IF EMBARGO NOT LIFTED. HE RECALLED ECEVIT WAS NOT SATISFIED WITH ECONOMIC ARRANGEMENTS OF FORMER AGREEMENT AND URGED GOT TO CONCLUDE AN AGREEMENT WHICH INCLUDES BOTH "GRANTS AND OTHER ECONOMIC POSSIBILITIES." IN CLOSING HE URGED THAT THERE BE NO NEW "SHORT CHANGES." TURKES' NAP PAPER "BAYRAK" FOUND GOT AGREEMENT TO REOPEN FOUR US INSTALLATIONS INEXPLICABLE AND NOT BEFITTING TURKISH NATIONAL HONOR URGING THAT POLICY SHOULD RATHER BE ONE OF RETALIATION FOR RUDE US TREATMENT OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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LAST THREE YEARS. IN SOMEWHAT CYNICAL VEIN "GUNAYDIN" COLUMNIST TEOMAN OREL WROTE THAT US NOW SEEMED TO WANT CORDIAL RELATIONS WITH TURKEY, BUT CAUTIONED THE GOT TO REMEMBER THE LESSONS OF THE PAST.
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